GLEN PARK NEWS

MARCH, APRIL, MAY 1988 G. P. A. P. O. Box 31292 S.F. 94131

Drugs at April Meeting

At the April GPA meeting (Tuesday, April 12th, 7:30 in the Rec Center), Sgt. David Robinson of the Police Narcotics Division will give a presentation on drug sales and abuse taking place in Glen Park. The presentation will include actual drugs and paraphernalia, and will cover how drugs are stored and sold, how to recognize when someone is using or selling, and -- most important -- what you can do about the problem without putting yourself at risk.

This program comes in the wake of a federally-led raid which netted a major haul of narcotics, thousands of dollars in cash, and an arsenal of weaponry suitable for storming the Bastille. The raid took place not in Hunter's Point or the Potrero, but right here on Surrey Street.

That event, combined with other tragedies, has made us realize we can no longer look the other way. In view of the pressure being brought by other neighborhoods to remove dealers from their streets, every neighborhood has to be prepared to resist sellers setting up shop. Step one is education: drugs don't look or act like we remember from the 60s.

Sgt. Robinson is a fascinating, lively, no-holds-barred speaker, but not an alarmist. His fact-filled presentation is a must for parents, teachers, and anyone concerned about the future of our nation, our city, and Glen Park.

Association News

At the February Annual Meeting, four new officers were elected. Only Nelson Combs, our long-time Treasurer, remains to ensure continuity and tell everyone what needs to be done. And since he controls the purse, he will receive our rapt attention. We wish all the officers and committee chairs the best of luck, and assure them of our support and help.

HELP!

Several key positions sorely need volunteers. Though VP Joan Seiwald has graciously agreed to take notes at our meetings, she will happily turn the job over to someone else. If you regularly attend GPA meetings (and if you don't, you really should) and can record votes and some of the reasoning behind them for posterity, please raise your hand.

Several chairs also have no occupants. Fundraising would be ideal for someone who loves to give parties -- big parties! -- once a year or so. Or, if you have an entrepreneurial bent, this may be the job you've been looking for. Programs is a new committee per our recently revised bylaws. The GPA realizes that meetings can be taken up with minutiae, and therefore can be a little dull. Besides, GPA exists to serve our community, and what better way to serve than to bring in outside experts to help us live better, richer lives. While the individual committees are taking responsibility

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GPA BOARD ROSTER

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President: Marcia DeHart. . . . 586-1735
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Membership Secretary:
Lorraine Garrehy. 587-1619
Recording Secretary: Open
Treasurer: Nelson Combs. 334-5059

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Coalition of SF Neighborhoods
Delegate: Ruth Gravanis . . 585-5304
Fundraising: Open
Health & Environment:
Carol Gamble. 334-1507
Neighborhood Improvement:
Lorraine Garrehy & Sarah Glasgow
(See above)
Programs: Open
Public Safety: Marcia DeHart (See above)
Publication: Carol Schatzberg. . 239-4553
Recreation & Parks:
Dawn Murayama 333-9053
Scouting (BSA): Heather Johnston 584-9482
Traffic & Parking: Open
Zoning & Planning: (h) 334-5463
Bruce Bonacker. . . . . (o) 567-8824

GPA Meeting Dates - 1988

The GPA is open to anyone who lives in Glen Park. Come let your voice be heard! We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (exc. December), 7:30 p.m., in the Recreation Center Auditorium, Elk & Chenery Streets. See you there!

March 8	June 14	Sept. 13
April 12	July 12	Oct. 11
May 10	Aug. 9	Nov. 8

Mark your calendar NOW!

Health Committee Notes

Air Traffic Noise & Congestion

The GPA is represented on a 15-member Supervisors Airport Noise Committee (SANC) and on the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods Environment Committee, as well as an ad hoc citywide group meeting with Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi.

The SANC and CSFN committees are in the process of organizing themselves, setting up contacts with other community groups, and establishing goals and priorities. It is likely that SANC will be able to gather and process information, devote resources to developing the technical expertise needed to work for effective solutions, and act as a clearinghouse for information to other city groups. The CSFN can organize effectively to exert pressure on elected officials to act on our behalf with the Airport and the FAA. Both groups believe that, with time and commitment, we can find ways to deal with the problem and solve it. But there are no easy solutions.

More Trees for Glen Park

The SF Friends of the Urban Forest will help plan a neighborhood tree planting,

Continued on p. 4

FORUM REALTY

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This issue of the Glen Park News has been underwritten with the help of these Glen Park residents:

Dolores Tighe
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Heims

Park Views

Here, in the middle of the city, is 76 acres of country where you can walk for a half-hour without seeing a car. Glen Canyon Park is the last natural canyon and stream with public access in San Francisco.

But while some rightfully call it "an island of serenity", others call it "an eyesore". The canyon portion of the park (north of the Rec Center) is severely threatened by alien weeds, too many fires, and a lack of maintenance. The wildlife is decreasing; species are being lost.

The Friends of Glen Canyon Park are dedicated to preserving and restoring the native plants, animals and geological features of the canyon and to enhancing the recreational and educational values there. Our main project last fall was to apply for funding for a Natural Resources Inventory and Master Plan. If approved, these funds will enable us to plan effective restoration projects and preserve this unique asset to city life. Decisions will be coming soon.

On April 26th, the culmination of the effort to formalize the structure of the Friends will take place, as we will have our first annual meeting and election of officers.

During 1987, the Friends sponsored 7 hikes led by experts on wildflowers, animal habitats, insects, streams, birds and fire safety. We also began developing a fire control plan in cooperation with the Fire Department, Recreation and Parks Department and the eastern and northeastern boundary homeowners. A schedule of regular trash pickups was implemented using city workers and volunteers. We assisted Scouts and other concerned people with cutting back brush to keep the nature trail open. We drafted an 18-page state-of-the-canyon document summarizing expert opinions about the status and future of the canyon, as a vehicle for requesting funds from the City's Open Space Program, and wrote a Request for Proposal and a Grant Request to the State Urban Stream Restoration Program.

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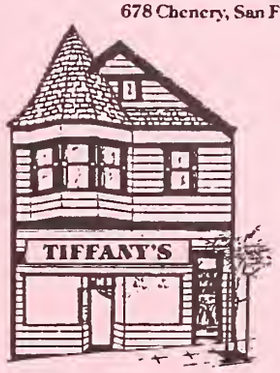

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Friday & Saturday 11-11 pm

Upcoming events are highlighted by a repeat of last year's phenomenally popular Insect Hike. John Hafernik, entomology professor from SFSU, will show us some tiny, interesting, rare and beautiful creatures, including the last San Francisco Forked Tail Damselflies to live within the city that gave them their name. The hike will take place on Saturday morning, May 14th, at 10 a.m.

The Friends meet on the 4th Tuesday of every month (except December) in the Rec Center Auditorium at 7:45 p.m. If you'd like to help achieve the goals outlined earlier, you can join the Friends for only $10 a year. Send dues to Lucretia Levinger, 300 Sussex Street 94131, or call her at 775-6200 for more information.

Want to get the Glen Park News first class? Join the GPA! It's the best $5 you'll ever spend -- and the News will arrive first class every quarter.

Spring is coming, and that means it's t-shirt weather. Easily the best-looking t-shirt in town is Glen Park's own, and you can get yours at Tyger's Cafe or Tiffany's Wines & Spirits.

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including help select trees, get permits, cut concrete, advise and assist with planting and maintenance, for only $95 a tree -- but only if we can organize at least one 4-block area with commitments to plant 30-35 trees in that area. For now, while interest in planting trees is strong, it's scattered throughout the neighborhood, rather than being concentrated in the necessary 4-block area. Perhaps as spring approaches, more people will want to become involved.

Hazardous Waste

Under a recently-enacted state law, each California county must assess its current hazardous waste disposal programs, procedures and facilities, assess its future needs, and develop a plan to meet those needs. Counties must also indicate areas where any one of seven different types of hazardous waste transfer or disposal activities could take place.

San Francisco has begun this process. Community meetings began in February. The first draft of our county plan will be submitted to the state at the end of March. Beginning in April, public hearings on the proposed plan will be held throughout the City, and the Board of Supervisors will review alternatives. Watch for the schedule of hearings, as this is a serious issue we must all face together.

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Get involved! Every GPA committee can use your help. Just pick the one that reflects your interests, and call the Chair listed on p. 2.

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Our Scouts in Action

One of the GPA's best investments in our future is its sponsorship of The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts. Cub Pack 114, with 32 7-10-year-old boys and 27 adults, all enthusiastic members, are led by Cubmaster Bob Lando, now in his 23rd year of pack leadership.

In January, the pack held their annual Pinewood Derby. The boys hand-carved, assembled and painted small wooden cars and ran them on an 8-lane track, built 20 years ago by pack parents, which runs almost the entire length of the Rec Center Auditorium! Some of the parents built their own racers this year and competed against each other. Boys and parents had a great time.

February was the pack's annual Blue & Gold Banquet, celebrating the 78th anniversary of BSA's founding. Following a potluck feast, 13 Cubs received their advancement for the month, and Mark Asnaya, District Executive, accepted a donation from the Sustaining Membership Enrollment fundraiser.

The Cubs are looking forward to summer activities such as Day Camp at Stern Grove, sports camps at Livermore and Russian River, baseball games, picnics and other enjoyable programs.

Boy Scout Troop 114 has a small but enthusiastic and eager group of 7 boys and 9 adults. Bob Lando leads this group, too, ably assisted by Karl Seligman and Nat Stookey (both of whom earlier earned coveted Eagle Rank, Scouting's highest award). Teaming up with Epiphany Church's Troop 329, they plan a snow trip to Pollock Pines in mid-March, plus a 4-night campout during Easter vacation. During the week of July 10, Troop 114 will attend summer camp at Wente Scout Reservation near Willits.

Scouting is definitely alive and well in Glen Park. If you know a young man -- or young woman -- with a curious mind who seeks a challenge, tell them about the Scouts. And call Heather Johnston at 584-8482 for complete details.

Coalition Update

The GPA is one of 43 members of the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, a city-wide organization which serves as a voice for San Francisco's multi-issue, geographically-based resident associations. The CSFN's functions include information exchange, lobbying and monitoring public agencies. Projects tackled include stronger code enforcement, zoning to neighborhood scale, improved Muni service, billboard control, preferential parking programs, protecting parks from building shadows, keeping branch libraries open, demolition controls and more.

Each member organization designates a representative and two alternates, and is responsible for hosting general meetings in turn. The GPA's current representative is Ruth Gravanis, who also serves as CSFN's Recording Secretary. GPA member Jay Estey is the vice chair of the CSFN's new Environment Committee, which will deal with issues such as aircraft noise, billboard blight and the preservation of open space.

All members of member organizations are invited to attend committee meetings and may become voting members after attending one meeting. Committees which deal with current issues most affecting Glen Park include: Housing (John Bardis, 661-5665), Safety (Margaret Verges, 346-4967) and Environment (Tim Treacy, 681-2568). Call the chairs above to learn the date and location of the next meeting.

All GPA members are also invited to attend general meetings of CSFN. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at Douglas School, 4235 19th St. between Collingwood and Diamond. Agenda items include parking taxes and fees, extension of the Open Space Fund, the use of Port lands south of China Basin, and a proposal to adjust the Gann Spending Limit. GPA members who attend a few meetings and are interested in serving as alternate representatives are urged to call Ruth Gravanis to volunteer.

Fight for Open Space

At its February meeting, the GPA voted to support the concept of extending the Open Space Acquisition and Park Renovation Program. What's it all mean?

The Open Space Program (aka 'Prop J') was approved by the electorate in 1974, and will expire in 1990 unless a new Charter Amendment is passed renewing it. Glen Park, and the city as a whole, has greatly benefitted from Prop J in the acquisition of open space (e.g., purchase of Martha Hill, now Dorothy Erskine Park), development of newly acquired open space, renovation of existing parks (tennis court lighting and refurbishing the Rec Center), and maintenance of properties acquired through the program.

But if the Open Space element of the City's Master Plan is to be fulfilled, much more needs to be done. Because many areas are still deficient in parks and open space, an ad hoc citizens committee has formed to assure the program continues via a November ballot measure. The new proposal differs from the existing program in several ways. It allocates only 6¢ instead of 10¢ per $100 assessed valuation; it changes the composition of the Citizens Advisory Committee which recommends projects to be funded; emphasis is placed on the use of low-maintenance landscaping; and an Office of Volunteer Coordination will recruit neighborhood volunteers for maintenance. The actual language of the ballot proposition is subject to modification based on input.

If you'd like to assist with fine-tuning the measure, fundraising or community outreach, call Ruth Gravanis (585-5304) for more information.

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Did you know that ads only pay for half the cost of the News? The rest comes out of the GPA treasury, and from gifts pledged by residents specifically for the News. If you'd like to contribute, call Nelson Combs, 334-5059.

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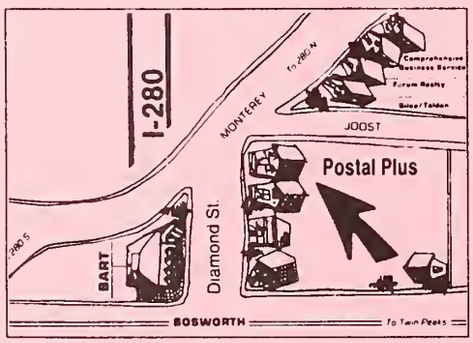
In Glen Park



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New President's Message

Seven years ago, when I first moved to Glen Park, I knew I'd found 'home'. Here was a place with all the proximal benefits of a cosmopolitan city, where people still walked alone after dark. A shopping district where you could actually buy what you need. Lots of different ages and faces. With a huge park only 3 minutes from my door.

But the proximal benefits of San Francisco bring with them proximal problems. And Glen Park is feeling the effects.

The point is that Glen Park is no longer a sleepy little backwater. To act like it is, to pretend the problems don't exist and hope they'll just go away eventually, to only be involved with our immediate families and next-door neighbors -- those are the surest ways possible to guarantee the quality of life we treasure will fast erode.

While it's amazing how much one dedicated person working alone can accomplish, the results are even more amazing -- and far more reliable -- when many people work together. The process is not without pain. It means first becoming aware of the world beyond our own doors, and accepting that it affects us. It means open dialogue on differing points of view, in order to hammer out a concensus and a workable approach that lets us maximize the advantages and minimize the disadvantages and effects of the issues we face. It means patience and tolerance, including patience in listening to 'their' issues while we wait for our own to be addressed.

Above all, it means leaving the comfort of our homes for a few hours a month -- even when we're tired and it's raining and there's something fantastic on TV -- to talk with each other and learn. And to make that effort even when immediate results are hard to see, in the sure and certain conviction that ultimately the effort will pay off.

To me, that's what the GPA -- and other neighborhood groups throughout the city -- are all about. Becoming involved is something of an act of faith. But not to be involved is to ensure that all the reasons that made us choose to live in Glen Park will eventually be taken away.

If all that jibes with your views, I hope you'll join GPA and become active. If it doesn't, I really hope you'll join, because the object of the Association is to advocate the views of the entire neighborhood, not just those of the people dedicated enough to attend meetings. Thanks, and stay in touch.

. . . . .

ANGELS APLENTY

The GPA now has gorgeous new letterhead, to impress city officials with our good taste and clout. Thanks are due to Robin Jones and Marcia DeHart for the design, to Len Deneweth for the stats and professional pasteup, and to an anonymous angel for paper and free printing.

Continued from p. 1
for a while for finding speakers, it will help out everyone if one person would make arrangements for 5-6 expert visitors a year -- everything from a top-notch gardener to hosting a candidates night. Traffic & Parking is a major issue facing our neighborhood. This won't be an easy job, but whoever takes it will affect the economic and physical health of our neighborhood for years to come.

Glen Park Association

P.O. Box 31292, San Francisco, CA 94131

Membership Application

Name_____ Date_____

Address_____

Phone: Day_____ Home_____ This is a ___new ___renewal application.

What are your main interests or concerns about Glen Park?

_____

_____

_____

Would you be interested in helping further these interests by serving on a Committee?

___Yes ___No If yes, which one?_____

(Dues are $5.00 per PERSON and are for the 1988 calendar year)

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